

**REMARKS**

The Office action mailed on 17 December 2003 (Paper No. 8) has been carefully considered. Allowance of claims 12, 14, 26 and 28 (paragraph 5) is appreciated.

Claims 1, 7, 9, 10, 15, 18 and 23 are being amended. Thus, claims 1 thru 12, 14 thru 26 and 28 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 2 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 thru 3, 6, 9, 15 thru 17, 20 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102 for alleged anticipation by each of Sakaguchi, Japanese Patent Publication No. 60-217186 and Maeda, Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-190602. In paragraph 4 of the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 4, 5, 7, 8, 18, 19, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103 for alleged unpatentability over Sakaguchi '186 in view of Maenozono, Japanese Patent Publication No. 08-127159. In paragraph 5 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to claims 10, 11, 24 and 25 for dependency upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 1 is being amended to include a portion of the recitations from dependent claim 9 and allowable dependent claim 10. Similarly, independent claim 15 is being amended to include a portion of the recitations of dependent claim 23 and


allowable dependent claim 24. As a result, it is submitted that independent claims 1 and 15 recite the inventive method and apparatus, respectively, in sufficient detail to distinguish the invention from the cited prior art.

Specifically, none of the references cited by the Examiner discloses or suggests the step of or means for adjusting the print location for printing by the printer by determining the print location for printing on the printing medium using the print location information and margin information, wherein the print location is determined by comparing an X-axis lower limit  $X_s$  with an X-axis upper limit  $X_e$ , and by comparing a Y-axis upper limit  $Y_e$  with a Y-axis lower limit  $Y_s$ . Thus, the amendment of claims 1 and 15 is consistent with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in paragraph 5 of the Office action, and therefore independent claims 1 and 15 (and their associated dependent claims) should now be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance, and early issuance thereof is solicited. Should any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's attorney.

No fee is incurred by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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